1 2 3 4 5 6 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON 7 AT TACOMA 8 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, 9 Plaintiff, No. 3:20-cv-6152 10 v. **COMPLAINT** 11 ANN LYSE, 12 Defendant. 13 14 15 this complaint against Defendant ANN LYSE, and alleges the following: 16

Plaintiff, the United States of America, by and through its undersigned attorneys, brings

#### I. NATURE OF THIS ACTION

1. Starting as early as July 2019 and continuing to the present, Defendant has conducted financial transactions with large sums of illegally obtained money, knowing that her transactions are designed to conceal the nature, source, location, ownership, and control of proceeds. Defendant's conduct includes knowingly receiving money obtained via fraud and then immediately transmitting the same money to accomplices. Defendant has transmitted money to and from accomplices in Jamaica and the United States.

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2. The United States seeks to prevent continuing and substantial injury to the United States and victims by bringing this action for a permanent injunction and other equitable relief under 18 U.S.C. § 1345. The United States seeks to enjoin the ongoing commission of banking law violations as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 3322(d), including money laundering in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(1)(B), international money laundering in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(2)(B), and structuring cash transactions to evade transaction reporting requirements in violation of 31 U.S.C. § 5324(a).

#### II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 3. This Court has jurisdiction over this action under 18 U.S.C. § 1345 and 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1345.
- 4. The United States District Court for the Western District of Washington is a proper venue for this action under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(1) & (b)(2) because Defendant is a resident of this District and because a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to this Complaint occurred in this District.

#### III. PARTIES

- 5. Plaintiff is the United States.
- 6. Defendant Ann Lyse is a resident of this District, residing in Lacey, Washington. In connection with the matters alleged herein, Defendant transacts and has transacted business in this District.

#### IV. FACTS

#### A. Defendant's Ongoing Banking Law Violations

7. Defendant conducts financial transactions to benefit one or more international fraud schemes, knowing that the moneys she receives and transmits are obtained fraudulently,

knowing that her transactions are designed to conceal the schemes, and structuring her cash transactions in an effort to prevent the filing of required financial transaction reports.

Defendant receives financial compensation for this conduct, by transmitting to an accomplice slightly smaller amounts than she receives and keeping the difference for herself.

#### (1) Money laundering and international money laundering

- 8. Beginning at least as early as 2019, Defendant has knowingly and willingly accepted tens of thousands of dollars from multiple sources and then transmitted most of that money to accomplices.
- 9. Defendant was reportedly contacted in June of 2019 from someone claiming to be from Publisher's Clearing House, stating that she had won a lottery prize but that she needed to pay fees to collect her winnings. Defendant paid those purported fees. Shortly thereafter, she received \$10,000 in her bank account. She was instructed to send that money in order to collect her winnings. She later learned that the \$10,000 was in actuality a cash advance from her credit card.
- 10. Defendant also received Express Mail packages from multiple locations across the United States, including Georgia, Maryland, Tennessee, California, and South Carolina. These packages contained payments from victims of other fraud schemes. Defendant then facilitated these schemes by depositing and transferring these payments, knowingly providing accomplices in Jamaica and the United States access to her accounts to access these funds.
- 11. Defendant suspected that the packages she received were part of a scam and believed that at least some of the individuals with whom she was in contact with were defrauding her. She nevertheless continued to facilitate these payments as instructed.
- 12. On or about July 29 and July 30, 2019, Defendant entered three different Wells Fargo branches, where she maintained checking and savings accounts, at locations in Lacey,

WA and Olympia, WA. She conducted five cash withdrawals in amounts ranging from \$300 to \$5,000 for a total of \$18,500. Wells Fargo reported a potential structuring of withdrawals to avoid a currency transaction report (CTR).

- 13. Between September and October 2019, Defendant made a series of cash and check deposits at Bank of America, where she had accounts at that time totaling approximately \$46,143. Funds were removed from the account via cash withdrawals made in Washington State, ATM locations in Jamaica, and online payments to Defendant's credit card. Bank of America reviewed login information to determine that the online account was predominately accessed at locations in Jamaica. Bank of America subsequently closed Defendant's account.
- 14. Between March 2020 and May 2020, Defendant opened checking and savings account with KeyBank. KeyBank monitored transactions through Peer-2-Peer (e.g. Zelle) and online transactions originating from Jamaica. KeyBank questioned Defendant about these activities and Defendant stated that she provided her account information to a friend in Jamaica and they were going to make a deposit to her account. Multiple withdrawals were made, but not completed due to non-sufficient funds. KeyBank closed Defendant's accounts.
- 15. In August 2019, Defendant opened accounts with Olympia Credit Union and attempted to secure a \$16,000 personal loan but was unable to do so because she refused to provide an itemized list of debts.
- 16. In July 2020, Defendant attempted to deposit a third-party check for approximately \$8,000 with Olympia Credit Union; the third party had no identifiable relationship with Defendant. Olympia Credit Union refused to deposit the check after Defendant explained the check was for fees to secure winnings from Publisher's Clearing

House. The next day, two checks attempted to clear Defendant's account for a total of approximately \$11,400, but were returned as non-sufficient funds.

- 17. On or about August 2, 2020, Defendant deposited \$3,000 in cash at an Olympia Credit Union ATM. Olympia Credit Union stated to Defendant that they were going to hold the deposit for ten days based on the recent deposit history. Defendant stated she was concerned that her contact with Publisher's Clearing House will be upset because she had been instructed to deposit the funds and then forward them to another contact in California.
- 18. On or about August 6, 2020, Defendant deposited a \$7,000 check from an out-of-state third party; the third party had no identifiable relationship to Defendant. Olympia Credit Union questioned Defendant about the suspicious nature of the funds but Defendant insisted the bank deposit the funds. Olympia Credit Union verified and deposited the funds. Defendant then withdrew \$5,000 in cash.
- 19. On or about August 7, 2020, Defendant attempted to deposit approximately \$6,000 in combined funds from multiple checks from multiple remitters. Olympia Credit Union's Fraud Department questioned Defendant. Defendant stated that she didn't know who the checks were from, but that she was told to deposit them and send the funds to third parties. Olympia Credit Union repeated that it appeared Defendant was involved in a scam and refused to accept the deposits.
- 20. On or about September 19, 2020, Defendant attempted to deposit a \$1,350 deposit from an out-of-state third party, who had not identifiable relationship with Defendant. The out-of-state check was returned stop pay. Olympia Credit Union then closed Defendant's checking account based on the history of repeated returned check deposits.

#### (2) Structuring

- 21. Defendant engaged in conduct designed to cause domestic financial institutions to fail to file a report required under 31 U.S.C. § 5313(a), and the regulations promulgated thereunder. Defendant repeatedly caused and attempted to cause her cash withdrawals, and those of her relative, to be structured in amounts designed to avoid this transaction reporting requirement.
- 22. For example, in July 2019, Wells Fargo Bank reported that Defendant withdrew a total of \$18,500 at three different branches, in five different transactions, in order to avoid a transaction reporting requirement.
- 23. For further example, between September and October 2019, Defendant made numerous check deposits that totaled over \$46,143, and additional cash deposits, in structured amounts in order to avoid transaction reporting requirements.

# B. <u>Defendant's Knowledge of Fraud; Intent to Conceal the Nature, Source, Location, Ownership, or Control of Proceeds; and Intent to Evade Transaction Reporting Requirements</u>

- 24. On information and belief, Defendant has engaged in the financial transactions alleged in Paragraphs 7 through 23 with the knowledge that the moneys she receives from and transmits to accomplices are obtained by fraud schemes or other specified unlawful activity.
- 25. On information and belief, Defendant has engaged in the financial transactions alleged in Paragraphs 7 through 23 with the intent to conceal the nature, source, location, ownership, or control of proceeds.
- 26. On information and belief, Defendant has engaged in the financial transactions alleged in Paragraphs 7 through 23 with the intent to evade transaction reporting requirements.

- 27. For example, Defendant received correspondence from the United States Postal Service in May 2020 and September 2020 alerting her that she appeared to be receiving money on behalf of a lottery fraud scheme. Nevertheless, Defendant continued to facilitate the financial transactions despite these notifications.
- 28. For further example, financial institutions alerted Defendant that her financial transactions appeared to be suspicious and indicative of fraud. Multiple financial institutions closed Defendant's accounts because of this suspicious behavior. Nevertheless, Defendant continued to open new accounts and facilitate the financial transactions with each new account.
- 29. Defendant also stated multiple times that she was working with individuals outside the United States, including in Jamaica, and sending and receiving money from these individuals.

#### C. Harm to the United States

- 30. The United States is suffering continuing and substantial injury from Defendant's banking law violations.
- 31. Defendant is continuing to facilitate her banking law violations. Absent injunctive relief by this Court, Defendant will continue to cause continuing and substantial injury to the United States and victims.

#### <u>COUNT I</u> (18 U.S.C. § 1345 – Injunctive Relief)

- 32. The United States re-alleges and incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1 through 31 of this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- 33. By reason of the conduct described herein, Defendant has committed, is committing, and is about to commit banking law violations as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 3322(d), including money laundering with intent to conceal in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(1)(B)(i),

1	money laundering with intent to evade transaction reporting requirements in violation of			
2	18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(1)(B)(ii), international money laundering with intent to conceal in			
3	violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(2)(B)(i), international money laundering with intent to evade			
4	transaction reporting requirements in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(2)(B)(ii), and structuring			
5	cash transactions to evade transaction reporting requirements in violation of 31 U.S.C. § 5324.			
6	34. Because Defendant is committing or about to commit banking law violations as			
7	defined in 18 U.S.C. § 3322(d), the United States is entitled, under 18 U.S.C. § 1345, to seek a			
8	permanent injunction restraining all future banking law violations and any other action that this			
9	Court deems just to prevent a continuing and substantial injury to the United States.			
10	35. As a result of the foregoing, Defendant's conduct should be enjoined pursuant to			
11	18 U.S.C. § 1345.			
12	VI. PRAYER FOR RELIEF			
13	WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, United States of America, requests of the Court the following			
14	relief:			
15	A. That the Court issue a permanent injunction, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1345,			
16	ordering that Defendant is restrained from engaging, participating, or assisting in money			
17	laundering, international money laundering, structuring transactions to evade transaction			
18	reporting requirements, and any money transmitting business; and			
19	B. That the Court order such other and further relief as the Court shall deem just			
20	and proper.			
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2	Respectfully submitted this 24th day of November, 2020.
3	BRIAN T. MORAN
4	United States Attorney  s/ Nickolas Bohl
5	NICKOLAS BOHL, WSBA #48978
6	Assistant United States Attorney United States Attorney's Office
7	700 Stewart Street, Suite 5220 Seattle, Washington 98101-1271
8	Phone: 206-553-7970 Fax: 206-553-4067
9	Email: <u>nickolas.bohl@usdoj.gov</u> Counsel for United States of America
10	Counsel for Officed States of Afficia
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE 1 2 The undersigned hereby certifies that she is an employee in the Office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Washington and is the person of such age and 3 discretion as to be competent to serve papers; 4 5 It is further certified that on this day, I mailed by United States Postal Service said 6 pleading to Defendant, addressed as follows: 7 Ann Lyse 4509 Montclair Dr SE 8 Lacey, WA 98503 Dated this 24th day of November, 2020. 9 10 Julene Delo, Legal Assistant 11 United States Attorney's Office 700 Stewart St., Ste. 5220 12 Seattle, WA 98101 Phone: 253-428-3800 13 Fax: 253-428-3826 E-mail: julene.delo@usdoj.gov 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23

JS 44 (Rev. 10/20)

## Case 3:20-cv-061**521 Page 1 of 1**

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS				DEFENDANTS					
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA				ANN LYSE					
(b) County of Residence of	of First Listed Plaintiff			County of Residence of First Listed Defendant Thurston					
(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)				(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)  NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.					
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name,	Address, and Telephone Number	r)		Attorneys (If Known)					
	Bohl, United States			Timemoje (ij iine iin)					
700 Stewart Stre	eet, Suite 5220, Seat	ttle, WA 98101,	_						
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II. BASIS OF JURISD	ICTION (Place an "X" in C	One Box Only)		FIZENSHIP OF P. (For Diversity Cases Only)	RINCIP		Place an "X" in and One Box for I		
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2 U.S. Government Defendant	4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenshi)	p of Parties in Item III)	Citize	en of Another State	2 🗌	2 Incorporated <i>and</i> F of Business In A		5	5
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IV. NATURE OF SUIT						re for: Nature of S	_		
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160 Stockholders' Suits 190 Other Contract	355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability	371 Truth in Lending 380 Other Personal	F <sub>72</sub>	Act 0 Labor/Management	500	IAL SECUDITY	485 Teleph	one Consu	ımer
195 Contract Product Liability	360 Other Personal	Property Damage		Relations		IAL SECURITY IIA (1395ff)	490 Cable/		
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210 Land Condemnation	CIVIL RIGHTS  440 Other Civil Rights	PRISONER PETITION Habeas Corpus:		0 Other Labor Litigation 1 Employee Retirement	865 R	SI (405(g))	891 Agricu 893 Enviro		
220 Foreclosure	441 Voting	463 Alien Detainee	Г	Income Security Act		RAL TAX SUITS	895 Freedo		
230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 240 Torts to Land	442 Employment 443 Housing/	510 Motions to Vacate Sentence				axes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant)	Act 896 Arbitra	ation	
245 Tort Product Liability	Accommodations	530 General			871 II	RS—Third Party	899 Admin	istrative Pr	
290 All Other Real Property	445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment	535 Death Penalty Other:	46	IMMIGRATION  2 Naturalization Application	-	26 USC 7609	1	view or Ap y Decision	
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X       1 Original Proceeding       2 Removed from State Court       3 Remanded from Appellate Court       4 Reinstated or Reopened       5 Transferred from Another District (specify)       6 Multidistrict Litigation - Litigation - Direct File									
	e filing (L	o not cite jurisdictional sta	tutes unless	diversity):					
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION Brief description of cause:									
Injunction for structuring, money laundering, fraud									
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT: CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P.				EMAND \$		CHECK YES only <b>JURY DEMAND:</b>		n complai	
VIII. RELATED CASE(S) IF ANY  (See instructions): JUDGE DOCKET NUMBER									
DATE 11/24/2020		SIGNATURE OF ATT	TORNEY C	DF RECORD					
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY									
RECEIPT # AM	MOUNT	APPLYING IFP		JUDGE		MAG. JUI	OGE		

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5	* <sub>1</sub>			
6	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON AT SEATTLE			
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8	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	NO		
9	Plaintiff,			
10	v.	[PROPOSED] CONSENT DECREE AND FINAL JUDGMENT		
11	ANN LYSE			
	Defendant.			
12				
13	CONSENT DECREE AND FIR	NAL JUDGMENT		
14	Plaintiff, United States of America ("Plaintiff"), commenced the above-captioned action in			
15	this Court with a complaint pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1345, alleging that Defendant, Ann Lyse, is			
16	committing or about to commit a banking law violation as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 3322(d),			
17	including international money laundering in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(2)(B).			
18	Plaintiff and Defendant, pro se, wish to resolve Plaintiff's allegations without litigation and			
19	jointly request and consent to the entry of this Consent Decree and Final Judgment ("Consent			
20	Decree") without Defendant's admission of liability or wrongdoing. Defendant agrees to waive			
21	service of the Summons and the Complaint.			
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[PROPOSED] CONSENT DECREE AND FINAL JUDGMENT - 1 No. \_\_\_\_\_

1	4.	Upon entry of this Decree, Defendant is permanently prohibited and enjoined			
2	from, directl	y or indirectly, assisting, facilitating, or participating in any money transmitting			
3	business.				
4	5.	Within five (5) days after entry of this Consent Decree, the Defendant is ordered			
5	to submit to	Postal Inspector Amy Kerkof a written acknowledgement of receipt of this Consent			
6	Decree sworn under penalty of perjury. The statement shall be addressed to:				
7 8	U.S. Postal Inspector Amy Kerkof U.S. Postal Inspection Service P.O. Box 400				
9		eattle, WA 98111 06-442-6132 (desk)			
10	6.	The Consent Decree shall not be modified except in writing by Plaintiff and the			
11	Defendant and approved by the Court.				
12	7.	This Consent Decree shall constitute a final judgment and order in this action.			
13	8.	This Court retains jurisdiction of this action for the purpose of enforcing or			
14	modifying th	nis Consent Decree and for the purpose of granting such additional relief as may be			
15	necessary or appropriate.				
16					
17	DON	<b>TE AND ORDERED</b> in Chambers at Seattle, Washington, this day of			
18		, 2020.			
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[PROPOSED] CONSENT DECREE AND FINAL JUDGMENT - 3 No. \_\_\_\_\_

1	APPROVED AND ENTERED BY	Y THIS COURT
2	Dated this day of	, 2020.
3		
4		HONORABLE United States District Judge
5	We hereby consent to the entry of the foreg	going Decree:
6		EOD DEFENDANT ANN LVCE
7		FOR DEFENDANT ANN LYSE
8	Dated: <u>Oct. 30</u> , 2020	Conn Lyse
9		ANN LYSE
10	,	
11		FOR PLAINTIFF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
12		BRIAN MORAN
13		United States Attorney
14	Dated: November 24, 2020	By: s/ Nickolas Bohl NICKOLAS BOHL, WA #48978
15		Assistant United States Attorney United States Attorney's Office
16		700 Stewart Street, Suite 5220 Seattle, Washington 98101-1271
17		Phone: 206-553-7970 Fax: 206-553-4067
18		Email: nickolas.bohl@usdoj.gov
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[PROPOSED] CONSENT DECREE AND FINAL JUDGMENT - 4 No. \_\_\_\_\_